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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
Jeffrey M. Achtermann et al.

Before the Examiner:
L. Jacobs

Serial No.: 09/438,437

Group Art Unit: 2157

Filed: November 12, 1999

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AUG 13 2003

Technology Center 2100

Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law
11400 Burnet Road
Austin, Texas 78758

SECOND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Second Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and Acknowledgement Postcard for the above-identified Application.

- No additional fee is required.
- The fee has been calculated as shown below:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 6, 2003.

Gracie Solis

(Printed name of person certifying)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims:	22	-	22	0	x \$18 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims:	3	-	3	0	x \$84 =	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					=	\$ 0.00

Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274) in the amount of \$0. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274). A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

- Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.
Attorney for Applicants

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Technology Center 2100

Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD : IBM Corporation
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND : Intellectual Property Law
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN : 11400 Burnet Road
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES : Austin, Texas 78758

SECOND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of May 7, 2003 (Paper No. 5), with a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 7, 2003, reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following remarks:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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Signature

Gracie Solis

(Printed name of person certifying)